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Alexandria Market House and City Hall (and Masonic Hall)
(Alexandria City Hall)
301 King Street
Alexandria (Independent City)
Virginia

HABS No. VA-33

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
- National Park Service
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Washington, D.C. 20240
Washington

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HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION
OF CITY HALL
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

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Name:

Original: Alexandria Market House and City Hall (and Masonic Hall)

Present: Alexandria City Hall

Location:

301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22313

City of Alexandria, Virginia

(City is independent jurisdiction within the state and is not located in a county.)

Presently bounded by North Royal, Cameron, North Fairfax, and King Streets (block includes Market Square).

Main entrance is in 1960-61 addition facing south on Market Square and King Street.

Originally bounded by North Royal, Cameron, North Fairfax Streets and Sharp Shin Alley. At that time the main entrances were located on Cameron and North Royal Streets.

Present Owner, Occupant, Use:

The City of Alexandria owns and occupies the building for City offices and Council Chambers.

SIGNIFICANCE

From the earliest days in Alexandria's history to the present, the Market Square has been the established center of the city. In 1749, two half-acre lots were set aside for a Town Hall-Court House and Market. The building which now stands on lots 42 and 43 was designed in 1871 by Adolph Cluss, the major architect in Washington, D.C. during the Victorian period.

The earliest Town Hall-Court House from 1752 was paid for by lottery and was designed by gentlemen builders, members of the local oligarchy, who were later participants in the American Revolution (John Carlyle, Richard Conway, William Ramsay). George Washington, Alexandria's greatest citizen and benefactor, served as a justice in Fairfax Court, which met in the early Court House; and was a town trustee before the Revolutionary War.

A three-story brick town hall was constructed along Royal Street in 1817. Part of this structure, the town clock tower, was designed by Benjamin Latrobe (Morrill, Who Built Alexandria? pp 21-22). When the building burned to the ground in 1871, the townspeople raised the money to pay for an exact replica of the Latrobe tower.

On Cameron Street, the Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge and its museum contained memorabilia associated most especially with George Washington's part in Alexandria's history. It was here, in the Masonic reception rooms in 1824, that the Marquis de Lafayette was given a splendid and festive welcome to the city of his great friend, General Washington.

Adolph Cluss' 1871 design followed closely the configuration of even the earliest structures. The 1871 building was U-shaped, with town offices in the upper floors of the west wing and northwest corner. In the center of the northern facade was the Masonic Lodge; and in the northeast, were the court rooms and court record vaults. On the east side were the police and fire stations. The market stalls were in the lower floors in the west and north and in the center of the courtyard.

The twentieth century saw the remodelling of the City Hall, as part of an Urban Renewal Project. The center of the 1871 U-shaped structure has now been filled with offices; and the southern facade is in a modified Colonial Revival style. A plaza has been created to the south of the building and is now the site for market days and important gatherings, such as the meeting of Scottish clans and bagpipers which takes place during Alexandria's annual Christmas Walk. The pristine, brick-covered square gives little hint of the bustling, colorful market days of the past, but has stimulated commercial revitalization in the center of the Old Town.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. PHYSICAL HISTORY

1. Date of Construction

The plans for the 1871 City Hall were received by the City Council only days after the May 19th fire (Alexandria Gazette, May 26, 1871). Construction was paid for by the sale of 2000 shares in the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, held by the City's Sinking Fund, to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The \$40,000 from the sale and \$10,000 insurance from the destroyed building financed the new City Hall (Alexandria Gazette, June 3, 1873). The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund were to receive rental of market stalls and offices, and this money was to be invested in City bonds to alleviate the City's loss on the railroad stock.

Adolph Cluss' plan was adopted by the Common Council, June 28, 1871 (Alexandria Gazette, June 28, 1871). A local builder, Edward H. Delahay, presented a bid for \$45,000, which was received and accepted October 5, 1871 (Alexandria Gazette, October 5, 1871).

The Alexandria-Washington Lodge approved Cluss' design on April 2, 1872, and made a contract with E.H. Delahay for the construction of the Masonic portion of the building, April 29, 1872. A local architect, Benjamin F. Price, provided a plan for the steeple at a cost estimate of \$8,000. This structure was paid for by private donations from Alexandria's citizens, most especially from John B. Daingerfield.

Dedication, or "topping off" ceremonies, took place as each section of the building was finished. The following is a list of these "topping off" ceremonies, as well as several completion dates notes in the Alexandria Gazette.

September 11, 1872 - Topping off of Sun Engine Company.

October 15, 1872 - Topping off of Masonic Temple.

October 28, 1872 - Topping off ceremonies for Market House steeple.

December 31, 1872 & January 1, 1873 - Rang bell for first time.

Farewell to old year and welcome to the new.

January 28, 1873 - First meeting of City Council.

September 5, 1873 - Superintendent of new Market building, Joseph

Hopkins certified acceptance of finished Market House.

September 21, 1873 - Courthouse occupied.

November 3, 1873 - Masonic Temple occupied.

November 11, 1873 - Fish Market moved into Market House.

February 24, 1874 - Dedication ceremony of Masonic Temple.

2. Architect

The Alexandria Gazette announced on May 26, 1871, that Adolph Cluss had presented a plan to the Common Council for the new City Hall, and on June 28th, it was accepted. Cluss came to Alexandria several times to explain the plans to contractors who were bidding on the construction (Alexandria Gazette, August 28, 1871; September 3, 1871). On October 31, after the building had begun, Cluss found that some of the brickwork on the inside of the walls was not according to contract and ordered it taken down and the wall reconstructed (Alexandria Gazette, October 31, 1871).

A year later, on September 24, 1872, Cluss visited the site and was pleased with the manner and style with which the work was progressing. It is important to note that the Commissioners for the Sinking Fund went to Washington on October 14, 1872, to inspect the Central Market which had been designed by Cluss in 1870. The Commissioners wished to arrive at a

style for market stalls, pavement, and "other internal arrangements"

(Alexandria Gazette, October 14, 1872). During the last months of construction, it was mentioned in the July 19, 1873 Alexandria Gazette that:

Mr. Cluss, the architect of the new Market House, was down here this morning, inspected that building, and passed it as one of the best jobs that ever came within his knowledge.

The Masons of the Alexandria-Washington Lodge now have in their archives a drawing by Cluss of the City Hall. This must have been the original sketch for the building presented to Common Council. The depicted clock tower on the Royal Street facade is not B. F. Price's design for a reconstruction of the Latrobe tower, approved by the City on June 12, 1872. Also in the archives is the contract made with E. H. Delahay for the construction of the Masonic Lodge. Cluss is mentioned in these papers specifically as architect of the City Hall.

Adolph Cluss was born in Heilbronn-Württemberg, Germany on July 14, 1825. His father and grandfather were architects. Cluss studied civil engineering and architecture. He was a friend of Karl Marx in the late 1840's and worked with the Communist Party in Mainz (McLellan).

Cluss came to Washington, D.C. in 1848, and from 1855 to 1859, he worked in the office of the Supervising Architect in the Treasury Department under Ammi B. Young. Cluss established a partnership with Joseph Wildrich von Kammerhueber in 1862. Their designs for school buildings won awards in several major international expositions. Cluss and Kammerhueber designed and built the Masonic Temple in Washington in 1867-1869, the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1869, and in 1870, the Center Market, which was located where the National Archives now stands. Cluss' part in designing these three buildings was of importance in 1871, when

he was chosen to design Alexandria's City Hall.

Cluss was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1867 and later was president in 1888. In 1890 he served on the Board of Directors. In the early 1870's, Cluss was appointed Inspector of Buildings and served as Chief Engineer on the Board of Public Works.

After Kammerhueber's death in 1870, Cluss worked with, first, Frederick Daniel, and after 1877 with Paul Schulze. Cluss and Schulze designed and built the U. S. National Museum (now the Smithsonian Arts and Industries Museum) in 1877-1881, and after devastating fires, they were responsible for reconstructing the U. S. Patent Office and the east end of the Smithsonian. This firm, in the 1880's, designed the Portland Apartments, the first large apartment building in Washington, Catholic University, and the Army Medical Museum and Library. From 1890-1895, Cluss served as Inspector of Buildings of the United States. He died on July 24, 1905.

Throughout his career, Cluss emphasized the importance of building regulations for safety and strength in construction. Cluss used the most advanced machine-made products available. His designs reflect his emphasis on efficiency, function, and safety. He used brick with concrete footings, cast iron columns, metal or slate roofs. The exteriors were of pressed brick with cast iron trim. Cluss used these simple materials ornamentally, chiefly designing in the Second Empire style. Cluss' biographer, Tanya Beauchamp, says of him:

Cluss made his reputation as an architect of great technical skill, able to design creatively in terms of function and the most up-to-date technology. A thorough professional, his values were entirely architectural. . . . This concern for modernity, for workmanship, and for honesty of form and function leads away from

the Romantic historicism of the anti-bellum years to more relevant contemporary concerns. (Beauchamp, 1972, 20, 25. See this Master's thesis for more complete biographical material on Cluss.)

3. Builders, Contractors, Suppliers

1. Edward H. Delahay - Builder and Contractor for City Hall/Market House and for Masonic Lodge.
2. Benjamin F. Price - Contractor and Builder for Market steeple, for entrance on Royal Street, erection of doors in lower story of Market House, fitting up of butcher and huckster stalls, fitting up of hall and office for Superintendent of Schools.
3. Joseph Hopkins - Superintendent of new Market Building.
4. Alexander Lyles - Fitting up new court room and records vault.
5. Thomas Wilber - Slater
6. Wools and Taylor - Plasterers.
7. Brill and Beach - Tinwork.
8. Philip Park - Plumber.
9. A. C. Kell - Painter.
10. Jamieson and Collins - Iron work.
11. William Cogan - Gas fitter.
12. T. E. Kemp - Stair builder.
13. Other Contractors and Suppliers listed:
 - Emmanuel Francis - Probably bricks and plastering supplies.
 - Smoot - Probably hardware, lumber.
 - Markeley - Probably carpenter, plasterer.
14. Green & Bros. Furniture Co. - Furniture for Chambers of Common Council and for Masonic Lodge.

Note: All of the above Contractors and Suppliers were Alexandrians.

15. Howard Clock Co. of Boston - Manufacturer of clock.
16. Mssrs. E., A., & G.R. Meneely of West Troy, N.Y. - Bell founders cast bell.
17. Gaddess and Co. of Baltimore - Galvanized iron cornices.

4. Original Plans and Construction

No plans are known to survive for the original 1871 City Hall. The Alexandria-Washington Lodge owns a drawing by Adolph Cluss for the Royal and Cameron Street facades. Also in the Masonic Archives is the original contract with E.H. Delahay and specifications for the construction of the Lodge rooms.

The 1877 Hopkins City Atlas of Alexandria and the Sanborn Insurance Map of 1885 provide the earliest visual clues to the configuration of the 1871 City Hall.

5. Alterations and Additions

July 5, 1887 (Alexandria Gazette)

R.H. Rudd and Bros. paint outside Market building.

September 25, 1882 (Alexandria Gazette)

Improvements included door cut between Court room and Clerk's Office. M.F. Hobson stencilled walls and ceilings in Court room. Dr. Shuman frescoed ceiling and wall of Auditor's and Treasurer's office with the Seal of the Corporation of Alexandria and the Coat of Arms of Virginia.

June 30 and July 7, 1891 (Alexandria Gazette)

Sinking Fund awarded contract for building market shed in center

of U-shaped 1871 City Hall to W.H. Winston of West End who bid \$2170. The shed was to be 12 feet to first joists and sides of cast iron.

June 17, 1895 (Alexandria Gazette)

Remodelling of City Collector's Office in Market building.

During the early 20th century City Hall and Market House underwent several alterations. An undated plan of the first floor reveals a number of changes. The Fire Company no longer occupied the southeast corner. This space allowed for an expansion of Police Headquarters and new prisoner detention cells installed on the first floor. The Court Records Room was moved from the second floor to directly below on the first floor of the northeast corner. Bathrooms also were added throughout the building. It appears that gradually the first floor market space along Cameron Street was subdivided with partitions for offices but probably the first floor along Royal Street continued to function as the market for some time.

The Alexandria-Washington Lodge moved out of City Hall in 1945 when the new George Washington Masonic Memorial was completed at Shuter's Hill on King Street. Surviving today are a number of different plans dated 1942, 1943, 1944, and 1946 by Ward Brown for alterations and additions to City Hall. These include two separate proposals for a new Police Headquarters addition to City Hall in the courtyard. According to the updated 1941 Sanborn Insurance map, only an underground addition for a fireproof, concrete boiler room with attached circular brick chimney stack was constructed in 1947; it extended off the east wing between the northeast and southeast pavilions into the courtyard. Other plans by Ward Brown show numerous modifications to interior spaces in the existing building for office of the

City Manager, Auditor, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Commissioner of Revenue, Welfare Department, Engineer, Building and Mechanical Inspectors in the west wing along Royal Street. A less elaborate plan by Milton Grigg, dated 1946, shows renovated offices for the Treasurer, Tax Collector and Commissioner of Revenue. It is difficult to reconstruct exactly which portion of these plans were actually built but it is probable that the office spaces were created or renovated in the old Market House on the first floor during the 1940s. Apparently a completely new City Hall building on St. Asaph Street was considered, as evidenced from plans by Ward Brown dated 1944, but never constructed.

April-November 1951 (Plans in City office of Building and Mechanical Inspections)

Alterations and additions by Robert A. Willgoos, Architect. A steel elevator and stair core was added to the south side of the Central/Masonic pavilion protruding into the market courtyard in 1952. On the second floor of the central pavilion, a Court Room with mezzanine, Judge's Chamber and Jury Room were installed.

March 18, 1960 (Plans in City Office of Building and Mechanical Inspections)

Additions and alterations by Robert A. Willgoos and Dwight G. Chase, architects. An addition was constructed in 1961 filling in the U-shaped courtyard where the large market shed had been located. This section provided additional office space for the City government.

On May 1, 1981 the City of Alexandria dedicated a new Court House at 520 King Street. At that time, the Court Rooms, Judicial Chambers, Prisoner Holding Cells, Clerk's Office, Jury Rooms, Witness Rooms and

ancillary facilities were moved out of City Hall to the new building. Also, other City offices were temporarily relocated into the 1960 addition of City Hall.

Currently, the City is renovating the 1871-74 City Hall building. Designs for the renovation are being prepared by Neer and Graef Architects Group Practice, Associated Architects, Alexandria, Virginia. These plans will complete a logical and repetitive loop circulation pattern linking the 1871 building and the 1961 addition with new elevators, stairs, and corridors. The second floor, two-story space along Cameron and Fairfax Streets from the northwest pavilion around to the southeast pavilion will be in-filled with another floor to provide additional space for office use by the City government. On the original third story of the Central or Masonic Pavilion, a mezzanine will be added for more offices. Throughout the building, renovated office space will be left open, free of partitions, to maximize flexibility. On the first floor, this will necessitate removing most of the original cast iron columns except ten columns in the central pavilion. These remaining columns will highlight a renovated entrance on Cameron Street which will become part of an axis through the building to the entrance in the 1961 addition facing Market Square and King Street. Also on the first floor, the walls enclosing the original staircases immediately adjacent to the central pavilion will be removed. On the second floor, the original walls separating the Court Room from the Judge's Chambers and Records Room will be removed. Modifications to the exterior will be minimal except a recessed entrance through the two center bays of the central pavilion on Cameron Street.

B. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

(See earlier statement on Significance.)

II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The most complete contemporary descriptions of the City Hall and Market House appeared in the Alexandria Gazette on November 6, 1871, December 28, 1872, and August 8, 1873 (See III-E Supplemental Material).

Another important document is the contract between the Alexandria-Washington Lodge and the builder Edward H. Delahay, which describes the actual building techniques and materials used in constructing the Masonic Hall (See III-E Supplemental Materials). Since this is the only technical description that exists, it contributes to an understanding of how the entire structure was built.

Adolph Cluss' construction materials and techniques, which are generalized in Tanya Beauchamp's description below, can be used for comparison in the study of the Alexandria City Hall.

The materials used by Cluss were invariably the most scientifically advanced machine-made products available. His buildings were principally of brick with concrete footing, rolled iron beams and trusses, and cast iron columns. Roofs were metal or slate hung on iron purlins. Wood and other combustible materials were eliminated as completely as possible. Exteriors were of pressed brick with cast iron, sandstone and terracotta detail. Machine-made products were uniform and easily handled, contributing to efficiency and economy of construction (Beauchamp, 1972, 21-22).

Within a few days after the fire which destroyed the earlier Market House and City Hall, Adolph Cluss presented plans for a new building. In the Common Council's preliminary discussions of the proposed building, George E. French, a City Councilman, found fault with Cluss' City Hall plan and favored one presented by a local architect, John Lambdin. During the discussions, French noted that Cluss' plan called for a double row of iron columns through the center of the structure, with fifteen

18-inch crosswalls. The building was to have 75 window and door openings (Alexandria Gazette, June 28, 1871). Later in the Gazette, it was announced that the ground floor doorways would be provided with iron gratings (Alexandria Gazette, August 24, 1872).

The City Hall was U-shaped around a central courtyard containing the market sheds. The east wing was on Fairfax Street, and contained a fire house, the police headquarters, and rental offices. Going from east to west in the northern, central section, on Cameron Street were the Court House, the Masonic Temple, rental offices, and City offices. In the western wing on Royal Street were the Common Council and Aldermen's Chambers and City offices. On Cameron and Royal the first floor level contained market stalls, whereas, on Fairfax, the first floor was occupied by the firemen and police. The northeast pavilion on the first floor may have been used for additional market stalls.

The Sun Fire Company was on the first floor of the southeast pavilion. On the second floor, which was two stories in height, the Engine House hall was located. The City's Police Headquarters and Station House were in the center of the southern wing on Fairfax Street. On the lower floor were the police muster room, washroom, and prison cells. On the second floor were rooms for lodgers and for the police, as well as offices for the Police Captain and the Mayor. To the north were rental offices on the second floor.

The public entrance on Fairfax Street for the courtrooms consisted of a wide stairway, with rails and ballusters of walnut and yellow pine. In the northeast corner on the second floor, were two offices for the Clerk--one designed for clerical use, and the other for records storage. The

walls of the records vault were of brick with no intruding wood studding. The iron floor and ceiling, laid in cement as well as the iron shutters and doorway, made the room fireproof. Along a corridor running south were three attorneys' offices to the east end, one office to the west, and two rooms for the petit jury and grand jury.

The Court Room in the northern section of the building on the second floor was 58 feet in length, 37 feet wide, and $22\frac{1}{2}$ feet high. The northeast pavilion allowed for the increased height of the ceiling. The Court Room was lighted by thirteen windows--six overlooking the market and seven along Cameron Street--and by a large gas reflector which hung from the panelled ceiling. The wainscoting was of yellow pine and the room was divided by a railing, the newels and rails being of walnut and the ballusters of yellow pine. The desks for the Judge, clerks and attorneys were of walnut. Two doors in the western wall led to the Judge's retiring room and to a stairway which was a private entrance for the Judge and officers of the court.

To the west of the Court, in the center of the Cameron Street facade was the three-story Masonic Temple, which was 60 feet in length. The Chapter room (46 x 28), two ante-rooms (16 x 11 and 12 x 11) and banquet hall (46 x 9) were on the second floor; and more meeting rooms were on the third floor. The floors and platforms were covered in Brussels carpet and the Chapter Room was lighted by an elaborate chandelier. The furnishings included chairs and settees covered in crimson velvet which were manufactured by a local firm, Green and Bros. Factory and Steam Furniture Works. The banqueting hall provided seating for 300. The cost of furnishing the Masonic Temple was estimated at over \$3,000 (Alexandria Gazette, November 3, 1873; Brockett, Lodge, 36).

The City School Board chamber, one of the offices to the west of the Masonic Lodge, overlooked the Market; and was approached by a stairway next to the Lodge. This room was finished by B.F. Price (Alexandria Gazette, January 29, 1873). The Aldermen's Chamber, in the northwest pavilion, was 24 feet in height, as was the Common Council Chamber in the southwest. The main entrance to the Royal Street wing (west) was beneath the clock tower in the center of the facade. Offices in this wing were provided for the Auditor, Tax Collector, Board of Health, and the City Gas Works. Next to the Aldermen's Chamber, in the northwest, were the Aldermen's committee rooms. In the southwest adjacent to the Council Chamber were offices for the Mayor. The Common Council Chamber, in the southwest pavilion, was carpeted and provided with railings and platforms. The single walnut desks, covered with green enamelled cloth, and the walnut colored armchairs were produced by Green and Bros. Factory. The Aldermen and Council Chambers were lighted by gas reflectors and contained Magee stoves.

The first floor level of the Royal and Cameron Street wings contained the Market stalls. The doors of the Market House and the butcher stalls, which were exclusively in the Royal Street wing, were contracted to B.F. Price (Alexandria Gazette, November 22, 1872). The January 4, 1873 issue of the Alexandria Gazette gives a more detailed description of the Market.

Each stall is provided with a locked closet beneath to be secured by a latch and padlock, but most of our leading dealers will, as soon as they get possession, adorn the stalls after the fashion of other cities, and marble tables, gilt ornaments, and elegant carvings will be the order of the day.

That this sort of ornament was not out of the ordinary is indicated in an account of a butcher stall in the old Market House.

Mr. J. Whitely, an employee at Green's Cabinet Factory, has carved from drawings by Mr. B. F. Price, builder, out of a block of wood, a steer's head for a butcher's stall in the market, which is pronounced to be one of the most perfect and excellent pieces of work ever executed by a mechanic. (Alexandria Gazette, February 25, 1870).

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTERIOR

The building's structural system consists of masonry bearing walls and cast iron columns which support the wooden ceiling and floor joists. There also are interior wood stud and brick partition walls. The exterior elevations are organized along the principles of the Second Empire style, which is characterized by the use of very three-dimensional massing, mansard roofs, superimposed orders, and often flamboyant Baroque detailing.

The building is essentially a two-story structure, which is dominated by four three-story corner pavilions and a central four-story pavilion on the north facade. The five pavilions each have two-story second floor levels. The different facades are unified by the repetitive use of similar bay sizes, window types, and decorative elements. At the first floor ceiling level, there is a continuous brick belt course, made up of a header course, two stretcher courses, and two saw tooth courses. The belt course divides each facade into two sections horizontally.

1. East Facade (North Fairfax Street)

The east wing is approximately 148 feet long and 40 feet deep. Its facade consists of a central two-story section, terminated on either end by a three-story pavilion. The pavilions are three bays wide and have three-story corner piers, which are capped by small pedimented cornices.

The central two-story section is divided into nine bays by a series of brick pilasters which run to the full height of the building. These pilasters were given "capitals," chimneys with elaborate terracotta crowns.

On the east facade, two of the brick pilasters are enlarged to a full bay size, and they serve as entries on the first floor level--the door at the southern end of the facade being the entry to the police station, and the door at the northern end of the facade being a public stairway leading to the Court House. This public stairway was enclosed and allowed access only to the second floor. On either side were doorways into the first floor market area. The three central bays of the two-story section are wider than the other bays. It is possible that these openings also allowed access into the Market.

2. West Facade (North Royal Street)

The west wing is approximately 148 feet long and 30 feet deep. Its facade is similar in organization to the east facade, in that it consists of a central two-story section terminated by two-three-story pavilions. On the west facade, the pavilions are divided into three bays by four three-story brick piers. The corner piers are capped by small pediments, and the two central piers are capped by a single, larger pediment, which originally was topped by two chimneys. In the center of the west facade is a clock tower, flanked by two-story sections, which are divided into six bays each by two-story brick pilasters. As on the east facade, some of the pilasters originally contained stove flues and were topped by brick chimneys, which have since been removed.

The central clock tower is a copy of the original 1817 market steeple, which was attributed to Benjamin Latrobe and was Georgian in style. The tower is a three-tiered structure above a square brick base, which projects forward from the face of the west wing. Centered in the base of the clock tower is the major entry door for the west facade. This entry contained a stairway which led to City offices on the second floor. Also Georgian in style, it is the only first floor door that is not a segmental-arched opening. It is topped by a projecting wood pediment, which is supported by two cast-iron columns with Corinthian capitals.

The base of the three-tiered steeple structure is of rusticated brick, and contains a brick panel with the statement: "Destroyed by fire May 19, 1871 - Rebuilt 1872." Atop the brick base is an octagonal wooden tier containing four clock faces. Above the clock is a smaller octagonal tier with eight narrow windows, topped by a spire and a gilded weather vane. Each tier is enclosed by a wooden balustrade.

3. North Facade (Cameron Street)

The north wing is approximately 238 feet long and 40 feet deep. It is two-stories in height with two three-story corner pavilions and a central pavilion of four stories. The corner pavilions are similar in organization and appearance to those of the east facade. The two-story sections are divided into six bays by brick pilasters, all of which originally were capped by brick chimneys.

The center pavilion is crowned by a grouping of three mansard roofs, which sets up a vertical organization for the facade. Thus, the four bays of the central pavilion are divided into three vertical sections, with

two bays being grouped together in the center by sets of double piers. The first two floors of the central pavilion line up with those of the end pavilions. Above, the third floor is lighted by an arcade of semi-circular windows.

4. Roofs

As is characteristic of the Second Empire style, there are several different types of roofs on the City Hall building. The two-story sections of the building have gabled roofs, whereas the four corner pavilions have hip roofs, two of which are gabled hips. The central pavilion is crowned by a grouping of three mansard roofs. The grouping consists of a large elevated mansard roof with concave slopes and an elaborate Baroque dormer, and two straight-sided mansards with semi-circular arched dormers.

All roofs on the City Hall building are sheathed in slate with galvanized iron cornices. The Masonic Lodge, however, originally was sheathed in slate and had wood cornices which were capped with tin. A masonic emblem, made from decorative tiles, was located on the rear of the central mansard roof. In the 1960's, however, the mansard roofs were resheathed, the emblem removed, and the tin cornices, roof ridging and dormer roofs replaced with copper.

The spire to the clock tower, however, remains sheathed in its original diamond pattern slate and is topped by a gold leaf finial and weather vane.

5. Doors and Windows

The door and window openings are of two general types: set-back segmental arched and semi-circular arched openings. All door and window openings on the first floor level are segmental-arched openings that are of uniform height. All second-story window openings are semi-circular arched openings, which vary in height and scale from single-story floors to two-story floors.

The smaller second-floor windows are divided into three sections vertically. They have an upper fixed section with six rectangular lights and five arched lights, and a lower moveable section with six lights. The large second floor windows are two stories high, and are divided into four sections vertically. They are divided horizontally by a wood transom bar into an upper fixed section of twelve rectangular lights and seven arched lights, and a lower double hung section of eight-over-eight lights. The Masonic emblem is carved into the keystones of the two center-bay, second-story arches of the central pavilion on the north facade.

Set into the first-floor segmental arched recesses were round-headed, double-hung windows with nine-over-six lights. The major entries were double doors, which vary in appearance across the three facades. There were also secondary entries that were single doors. The windows on the first floor at the northeast pavilion and several windows along Cameron Street, are radically different. In the first part of the 20th century the court records were moved from the second to the first floor. Steel windows were installed to make this room fireproof.

On the north facade there were two entry doors to the Masonic Lodge which appear on the two sides of the central pavilion. Public entry was

provided to the second floor of the City offices and courts through doors on either side of the central pavilion. All the original door and window units were probably similar to those of the west facade.

B. INTERIOR

The interior of the City Hall is at present under demolition and little of the original fabric remains, as the majority of the spaces have been stripped of all finish. In most spaces, all that remains are the masonry bearing walls, cast iron columns, interior framing and brick partition walls.

There are, however, some remnants of plaster, paint and wallpaper. On the second floor of the southeast pavilion there are some fragments of painted plaster, and on the second floor of the Mason's Lodge traces of wallpaper were found in a niche between two windows on the north wall. In the second floor chamber of the northwest pavilion, there are remains of the wooden framework for a cove ceiling. The remaining wooden framework for the Court Room ceiling indicates that there was a large central raised portion from which was suspended a "gas reflector" chandelier. In the northeast pavilion, the fireproofing for the original court records room remains. It consists of an iron ceiling and floor set in cement.

C. SITE

The complex originally was oriented north towards Cameron Street, and was bounded on the east by North Fairfax Street and on the west by North Royal Street. The original plan was U-shaped, with its center section along Cameron Street. The central court yard faced south toward Sharp Shin Alley (later Market Alley) and was used as a public market space filled with sheds rented to vendors. During 1960-61, an addition was built on City Hall,

filling in the old courtyard. The building was reoriented towards the south with the new entrance facing King Street and Market Square, an open, landscaped plaza with central fountain, completed in 1967 as part of the Gadsby Commercial Urban Renewal Project.

III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS

1. Elevation by Adolph Cluss, 1871 - Archives of Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge No. 22 (#590)

The following blueprints are in the office of Building and Mechanical Inspections, City of Alexandria.

2. Proposed alterations to City Hall by Office of City Engineer, August 28, 1938; revised January 9, 1939.
3. Alterations and additions to City Hall; Ward Brown, architect, March 1944. East wing addition and alterations to Police headquarters.
4. Alterations and additions to City Hall; Robert A. Willgoos, architect, 1951. Addition of elevator, steel stairway, changes to Court Rooms.
5. Additions and alterations to City Hall; Robert A. Willgoos and Dwight G. Chase, architects, March 18, 1960. Large addition in center of 1871 U-shaped structure on south side.
6. Alterations and additions to City Hall; Ward Brown, architect; October 1942; revised May 1943 and February 1944. Plans for renovation of Royal Street wing; only portion built later.
7. Proposed future addition in courtyard of City Hall; Ward Brown, architect, December 27, 1942. Two three-story additions on east and west wings facing south on alley which were never constructed.
8. Proposed City Hall; Ward Brown, architect, December 10, 1944. Drawings and plans for proposed new building on St. Asaph Street which was never constructed.

9. Unidentified plan dated February 17, 1946. Alterations for City Manager's Office in west wing on Royal Street.
10. Proposed Police Headquarters; Ward Brown, architect, March 1946. Plans for three-story building in City Hall courtyard facing south; never constructed.
11. Welfare Office, City Hall; Ward Brown architect, March 11, 1946. Renovation in west wing on Royal Street.
12. Preliminary study for City Hall buildings; Ward Brown, architect, April 1946. Proposed matching U-shaped building on King Street; never constructed.
13. Alterations to first floor offices of City Hall, Milton L. Grigg, A.I.A., November 4, 1946. Renovations for finance offices in north wing along Cameron Street.
14. Unidentified and undated plan for first floor City Hall.
15. Unidentified and undated plan for Health Department office in north wing along Cameron Street.

B. EARLY VIEWS

1. Library of Congress - Prints and Photographs Division
 - a. Photograph: Historic American Buildings Survey - Virginia
HABS Va 7 Alexandria 132-1, Mansard on Market Square side -
in tiles - Masonic symbol.
 - b. Engraving LC - USZ62-2493 - Town Hall and Market House on
Royal Street, 1861, from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper.
 - c. Birds Eye View of Alexandria, Va., Charles H. Magnus, 1863.
2. Harper's New Monthly Magazine, Vol. LX, February 1880, No. 357,
pp. 353-365. Picture of stocks, pillory, jail in Market Square
(p. 360).

3. National Archives

Aerial photograph of Torpedo Factory including view of City Hall, 1943.

4. Photographs owned by William F. Smith, Alexandria

- a. Royal Street facade, 1871 City Hall building. Alexandria, Va., undated.
- b. Cameron Street facade showing horse and buggy on cobblestone street; ca. 1900.
- c. Old Market House and Town Hall (1817 building), interior view of market, undated.
- d. Market with people shopping, ca. 1900.
- e. Market square side of 1871 Royal Street facade, old automobiles in alley, ca. 1920?
- f. Royal Street facade of 1817 building, before May 19, 1871.
- g. 1871 Royal Street facade, ca. 1900?
- h. 1871 Royal Street facade, ca. 1900?
- i. Photos of Market Shed before demolition. Interior U of City Hall, undated.

5. Lloyd House Library, Alexandria, Va.

a. Vertical Files - Market Square

- (1) Washington Post, September 9, 1971, Alexandria's Market activity in 1890.
- (2) Washington Daily News, July 18, 1954 - Market in Market Shed.
- (3) Alexandria Gazette, May 7, 1970 - Market stalls being demolished.

(4) Washington Daily News, July 18, 1954 - View of inside
Market, back of Royal Street wing.

b. Vertical Files - Masonic Temple

Four postcards before 1925 showing Cameron Street facade and
three interior views of Masonic rooms.

c. Birds Eye View of Alexandria, Va., Charles H. Magnus, 1863.

d. Negative of iron door to Clerk's vault.

e. Alexandria Photograph Collection - City Hall file

(1) Roof and courtyard of 1817 Market House, before 1871.

(2) City Hall showing North Royal and Cameron Street facades,
ca. 1910.

(3) ~~Interior of Masonic Lodge, City Hall, ca. 1914~~
~~ca. 1852-1872 (aerial view)~~

6. Drawing of Market Square, 1860's - from Fairfax Street with Town
Hall, collection of Government Services Savings and Loan,
Bethesda, Maryland.

7. Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge No. 22 Archives

a. #633, photograph of Masonic Temple, exterior, undated.

b. #634, photograph of Masonic Temple, interior, undated.

c. #652, photograph of No. 2 Royal Street, front of Old Town Hall,
before May 19, 1871.

d. #536, photograph of Lodge Room interior, 1916.

e. #655, photograph of Old Market House, undated.

f. #658, #659, photographs of Alexandria City Market, undated.

8. Drawing of Market activity from Scribner's Monthly, February 1881,
p. 493.

9. Photograph from Charles H. Callahan's Washington: The Man and
the Mason, 1913.

corrections
based on
Sahell letter
of Dec 31, 1991
Lebrun

- a. City Hall, Cameron Street facade.
 - b. Old Alexandria-Washington Lodge Room.
 - c. Interior of Alexandria-Washington Lodge.
10. Photographs owned by Charles Sampson, Alexandria.
Cameron Street facade, ca. 1900.

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D. SOURCES NOT YET INVESTIGATED

In conjunction with the City Hall renovation currently underway, a more elaborate report on the building is being prepared. This report will consist of two parts: 1) a detailed history of the building and its changing functions over time; 2) a detailed historic structures report analyzing the material remains of the original structure and evidence of subsequent alterations. These reports will be completed during the fall of 1981 and will be submitted as addenda to this document by the end of the year.

Continuing research will focus on the earlier buildings on the site, the evolving configuration of the market, the changing uses of spaces in the existing building, and 20th century alterations.

Primary sources which remain to be examined include the following.

Deed Records, Wills: City of Alexandria, Fairfax County, and
Arlington County, Virginia.

Miscellaneous records pertaining to Alexandria in Fairfax County
and Arlington County archives.

Virginia Gazette, Williamsburg, Virginia.

Alexandria City Land and Personal Property Tax Assessments in Virginia
State Library, Richmond.

Later issues of the Alexandria Gazette will be read to find additional
documentations for alterations and renovations to City Hall during
the 20th century.

INCLUDED IN
FIELD
RECORDS

E. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

1. Alexandria Gazette, November 6, 1871.
2. Alexandria Gazette, December 28, 1872.
3. Alexandria Gazette, August 8, 1873.
4. Agreement between Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 and Edward
H. Delahay, April 25, 1872.
5. G.M. Hopkins, City Atlas of Alexandria, Virginia, 1877.
6. Sanborn-Perris Map Company, Alexandria Insurance Atlases, 1885,
1891, 1896, 1902, 1907, 1912, 1921.
7. Elevation by Adolph Cluss, 1871.
8. Plan, first floor, City Hall, undated.

Xerox copy
follows this section, p 52

LEGONCA

III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS

14. Unidentified plan for first floor City Hall/Market House, ca. 1896-1902.
Plans and drawings owned by Harry Graef, AIA, Neer and Graef, Alexandria, Virginia.
16. Alley Arcade; Alterations and additions to Alexandria City Hall; Cameron and North Royal Streets; Willgoos, Graef & Davis, Architects; Fortune Engineering, Structural; N.C. Larson & Associates, Mechanical; February 24, 1961
17. Council Chamber Enlargement; Harry H. Graef, Architect, August 21, 1961.
18. East Wing Alteration; Alexandria City Hall; North Fairfax Street between Cameron Street and Sharpshin Alley; Willgoos, Graef & Davis, Architects; January 29, 1962 and February 2, 1962.
19. Alexandria City Hall Renovation; 125 North Royal Street, Alexandria, Neer & Graef and Architects Group Practice, Associated Architects, AIA, Alexandria; Elevations, November 4, 1981; Salvage and Demolition Plans, Phase I, Existing Conditions, November 28, 1980.

B. EARLY VIEWS

1. Library of Congress - Periodicals
 - a. Engraving - "Stocks, Pillory, and Jail, in the Market-Place", from Harper's New Monthly Magazine, Vol. LX, No. 357 (February 1880, p. 360.)
5. Lloyd House Library, Alexandria, Virginia
 - f. Alexandria Photograph Collection - Masonic Temple file
 - (1) Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge, No. 22, Interior Chapter Room in City Hall/Market House, ca. 1916.
 - (2) Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge No. 22, Interior Chapter Room in City Hall/Market House, after 1916?
10. Photographs owned by Charles Sampson, Alexandria, VA.
 - a. Royal Street facade with clock tower, looking north, ca. 1920's.
 - b. Parade in front of City Hall on North Fairfax Street, from intersection at Cameron Street, ca. 1930's.
 - c. City Market scene, ca. 1910-20.

- d. Royal Street facade, looking north from intersection of King and North Royal Streets.
- e. Cameron Street facade, looking east from intersection at North Royal Street, ca. 1890.
- f. City Hall and Market House, seen from Shinbone Alley at intersection with King Street.
- g. City Hall at intersection of Cameron and North Royal Streets, ca. 1890.

11. Virginia State Library, Richmond - Picture Collection

- a. Masonic Lodge in City Hall. Exterior. Undated. #24329
- b. City Hall. Cameron and North Fairfax Streets facades. Undated. #57086
- c. Masonic Lodge Hall. Interior Chapter Room. #45-6739.
- d. Old City Hall before 1871 fire. Aerial view. #63607.
- e. Town Hall and Market House on Royal Street, 1861. Engraving from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper. #35786.
- f. HABS photograph. Alexandria, Virginia, City Hall, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission negative #92834.

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E. Supplemental Material

8. Unidentified plan for first floor City Hall/Market House, ca. 1896- 1902.

9. Neer & Graef and Architects Group Practice, Associated Architects, AIA, Alexandria. Alexandria City Hall Renovation. Elevations. November 4, 1981.

a. Cameron Street and Fairfax Street.

b. Market Square and Royal Street.

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10. Photograph of drawing of Old Market House and City Hall from Adams Express Office showing Hydraulion Fire Company. Signed "MAE". ca. 1860's. Drawing owned by Government Services Savings and Loan. Bethesda, Maryland. Photograph courtesy F. William Smith, Alexandria.

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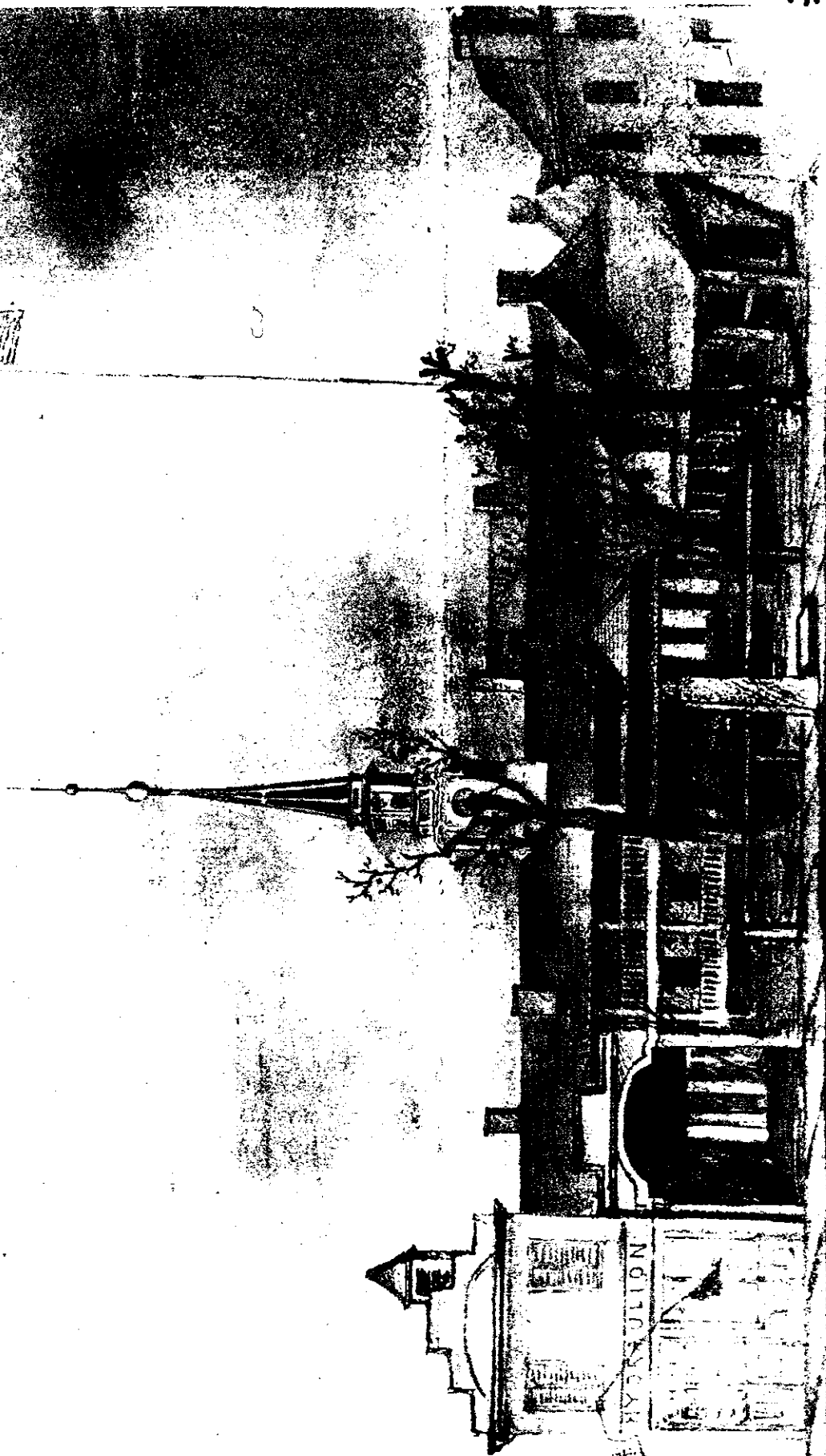
11. Photograph of engraving of Alexandria Town Hall and Market House on Royal Street. Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, vol. 12, no. 64 (1961). Library of Congress.

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12. Photograph of old City Hall and Market House. Aerial view. Before May 19, 1871. Lloyd House Library.

- page 43 13. Photograph of old City Hall and Market House. Before May 19, 1871, possible Civil War period. Photograph possible by Narromoe, copied from photograph owned by Mrs. Rust. Courtesy F. William Smith, Alexandria.
- page 44 14. Photograph of City Hall. Cameron Street facade from corner of North Royal Street. ca. 1890. F. William Smith collection, Alexandria.
- page 45 15. A Photograph of City Hall. Cameron and North Royal Streets facades. ca. 1890. Charles L. Sampson collection, Alexandria.
- page 46 16. Photograph of City Hall and Mason's Hall from corner of Cameron and North Fairfax Streets. Published in Washington: Man and Mason by Charles H. Callahan, 1913. Archives of the Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge No. 22.
- page 47 17. Photograph of City Hall. Cameron and North Royal Streets facades. ca. 1923. Lloyd House Library.
- page 48 18. Photograph of interior of Chapter Room of Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge in City Hall and Market House. Published in Washington: Man and Mason by Charles H. Callahan, 1913. Archives of the Alexandria-Washi
- page 49 19. Photograph of interior of Chapter Room of Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge in City Hall and Market House. ca. 1916? Lloyd House Library.
- page 50 20. Photograph of interior of Chapter Room of Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge in City Hall and Market House. ca. 1916 or later. Photograph by M. Loeb. Lloyd House Library.
- page 51 21. Photograph of City Hall and Market House from corner of Market and Sharpshin Alleys. Copied from photograph owned by Dolly Shephardson. Courtesy F. William Smith, Alexandria.

1817 City Hall from Adams Express Office
showing Hydraulion Fire Company. Signed
"MAC" ca. 1860s
drawing owned by Government Services S&L
courtesy WM F. Smith Collection, Alexandria



Old market City Hall Alexandria Va
from the Adams Ex Office

THE HUMORS OF A PRISON—JOHN N. A STATIONER. "Cold, Vain, and Proud, FROM A SKETCH BY ONE SPECIAL AGENT IN WASHINGTON. SEE PAGE 827."

As he counselled so Erie performed. He took the box in his hands, and knelt at the feet of the Lady Maid. Thus he lifted the lid, and withdrew from within a parchment manuscript of several pages.

"I, Baron Erle of Kingswood, do here make confession to him, or to her, or to them who may discover the secret hiding-place in which I shall deposit this

writing of my most dreadful deed of guilt. My cousin, Lady Mary, of Brighton, who was ever my friend, and who was ever desirous to do me good, was herself distressed, deprived of both parents by the increase of the French war, and plunderers, acting under warrants falsely purporting to be signed by Henry VIII., of that day king, was brought up within the Hall of Kingwood, a castle left to my father and to my mother, to cherish and to protect. We were reared as brother and sister, and then it seemed that between us much affection should exist. But when I sprang towards manhood I found that her exceeding fondness for me was a source of grief to her, and that she was weary of my presence. But when I sprang towards manhood I found that her exceeding fondness for me was a source of grief to her, and that she was weary of my presence.

[illegible]

photo of engraving from Frank Leslie's
Illustrated Newspaper 12:64 (1861)

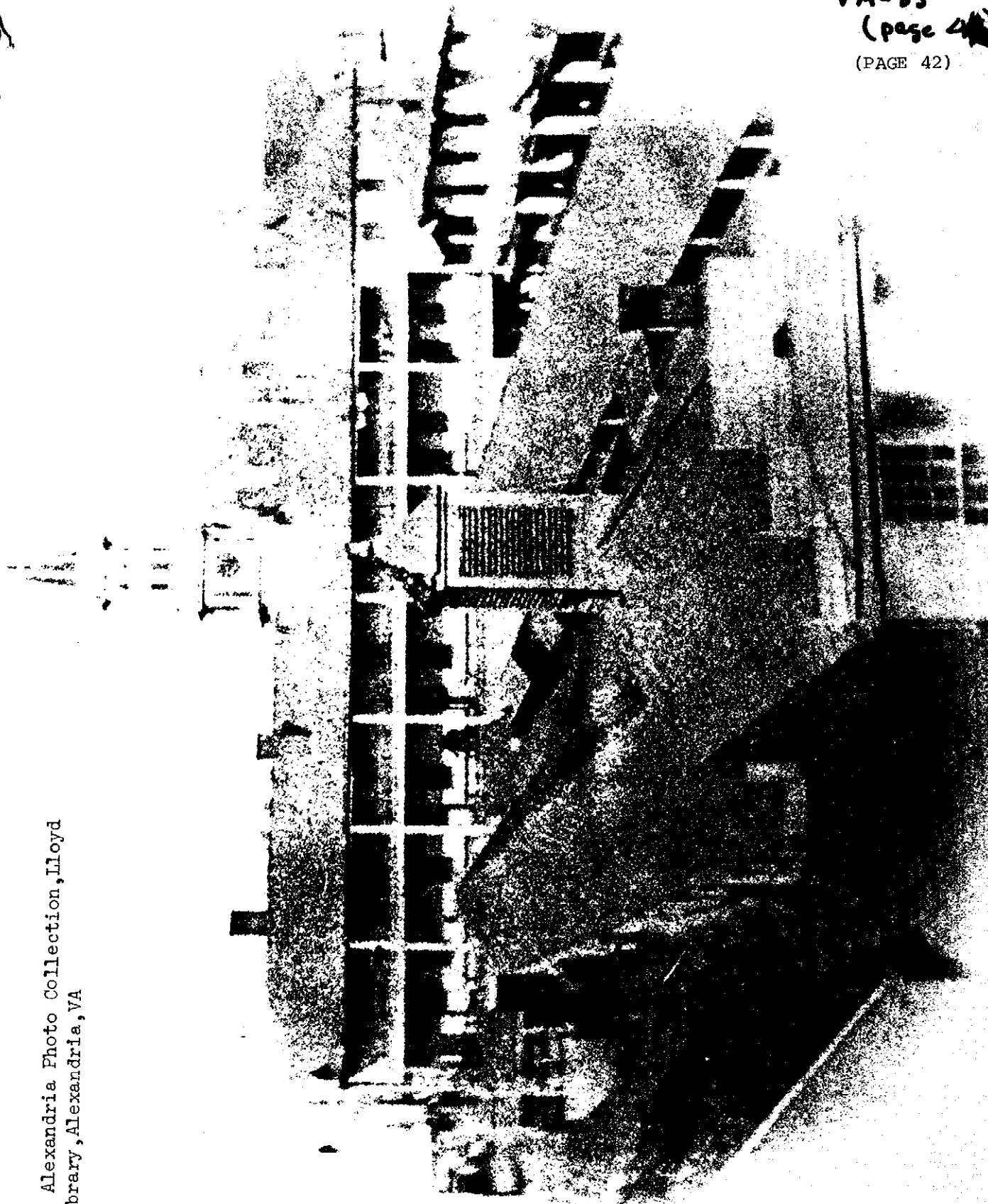
Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs

1817 City Hall. seen from above, before May 19,
1871

Courtesy Alexandria Photo Collection, Lloyd
House Library, Alexandria, VA

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(page 42)

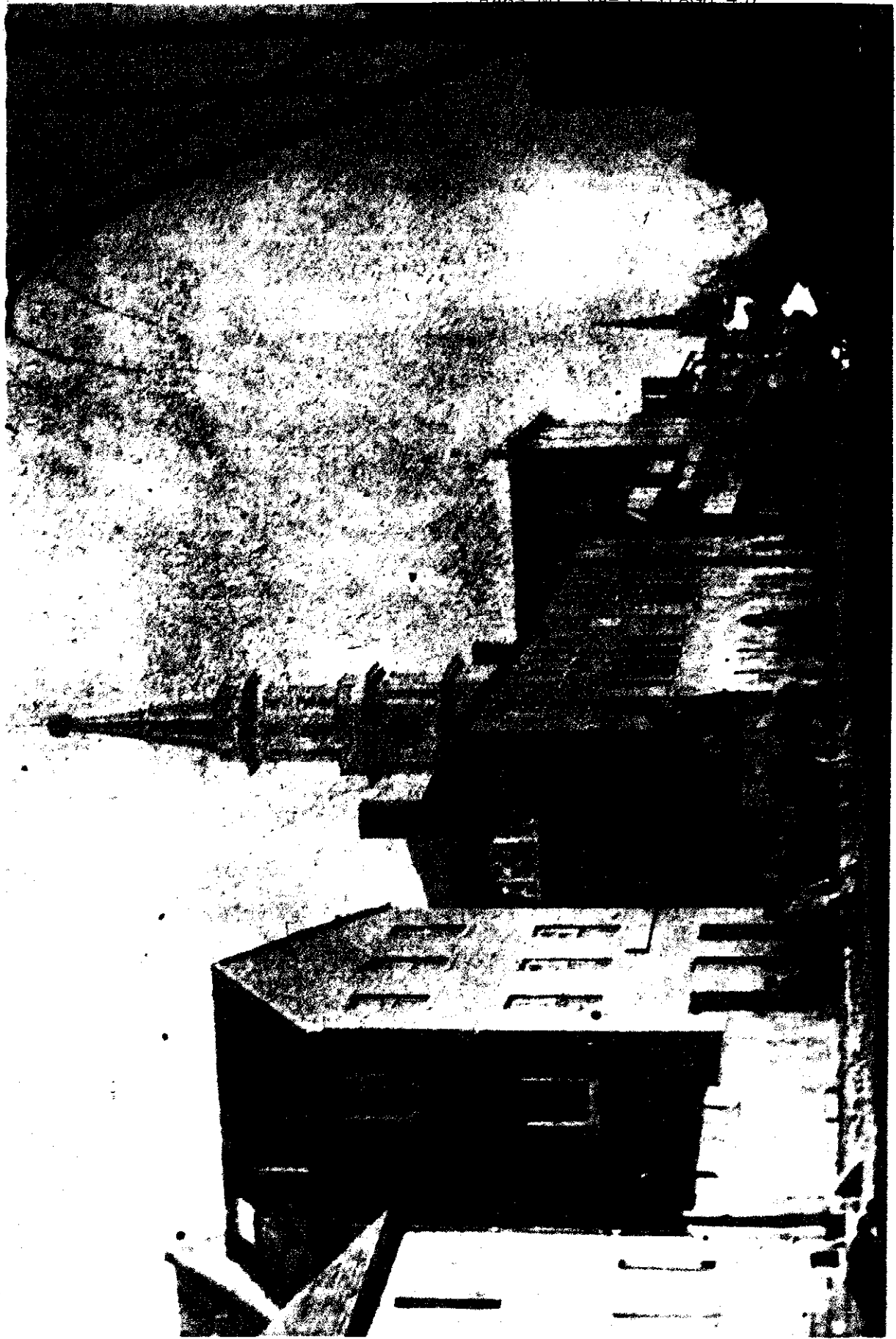
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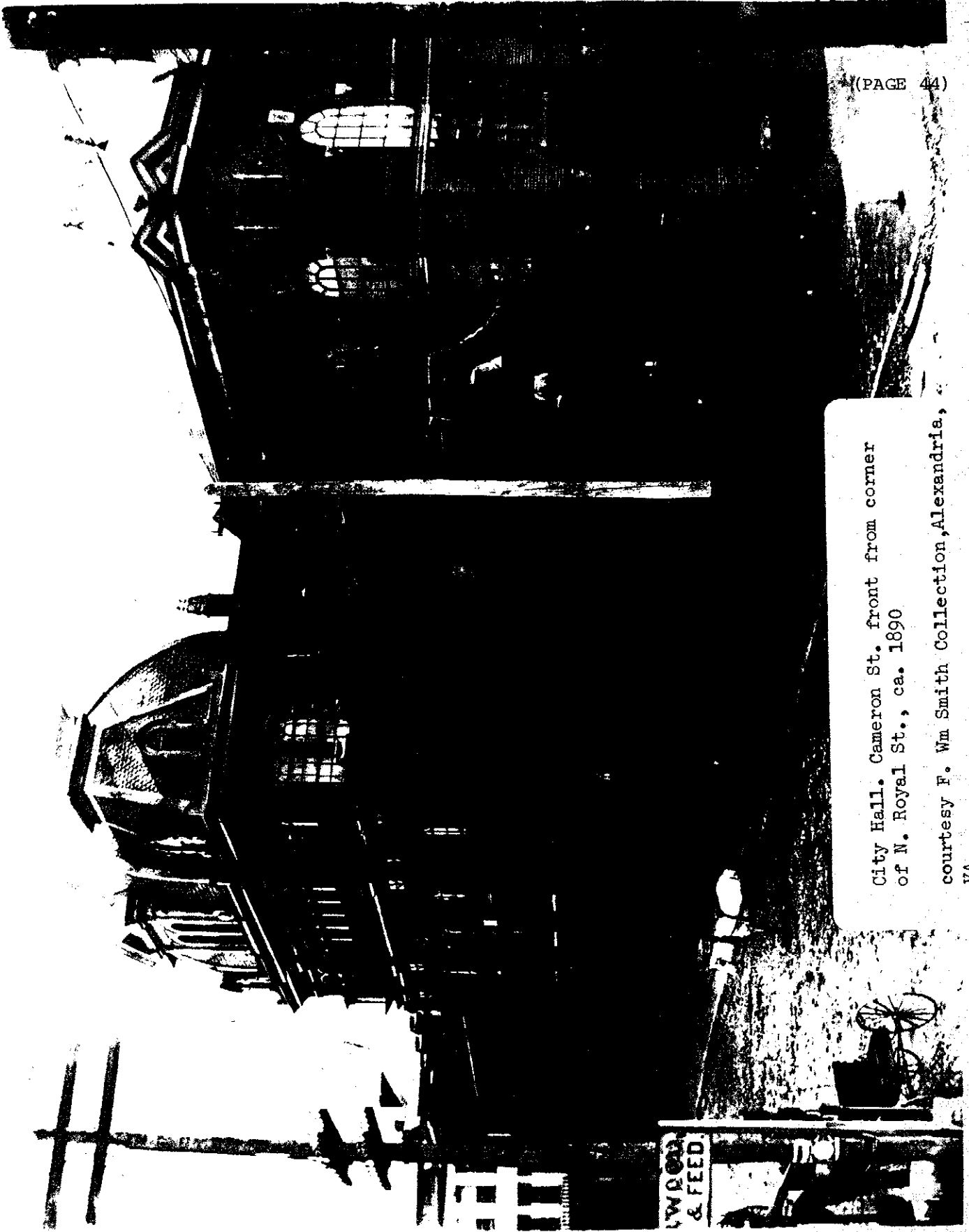
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1817 Alexandria City Hall, Royal St. front.
before May 19, 1871, possibly Civil War period.
copied from photo owned by Mrs. Rust.
photo possibly by Narrome?

Courtesy F. William Smith Collection,
Alexandria, VA



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(page 40)

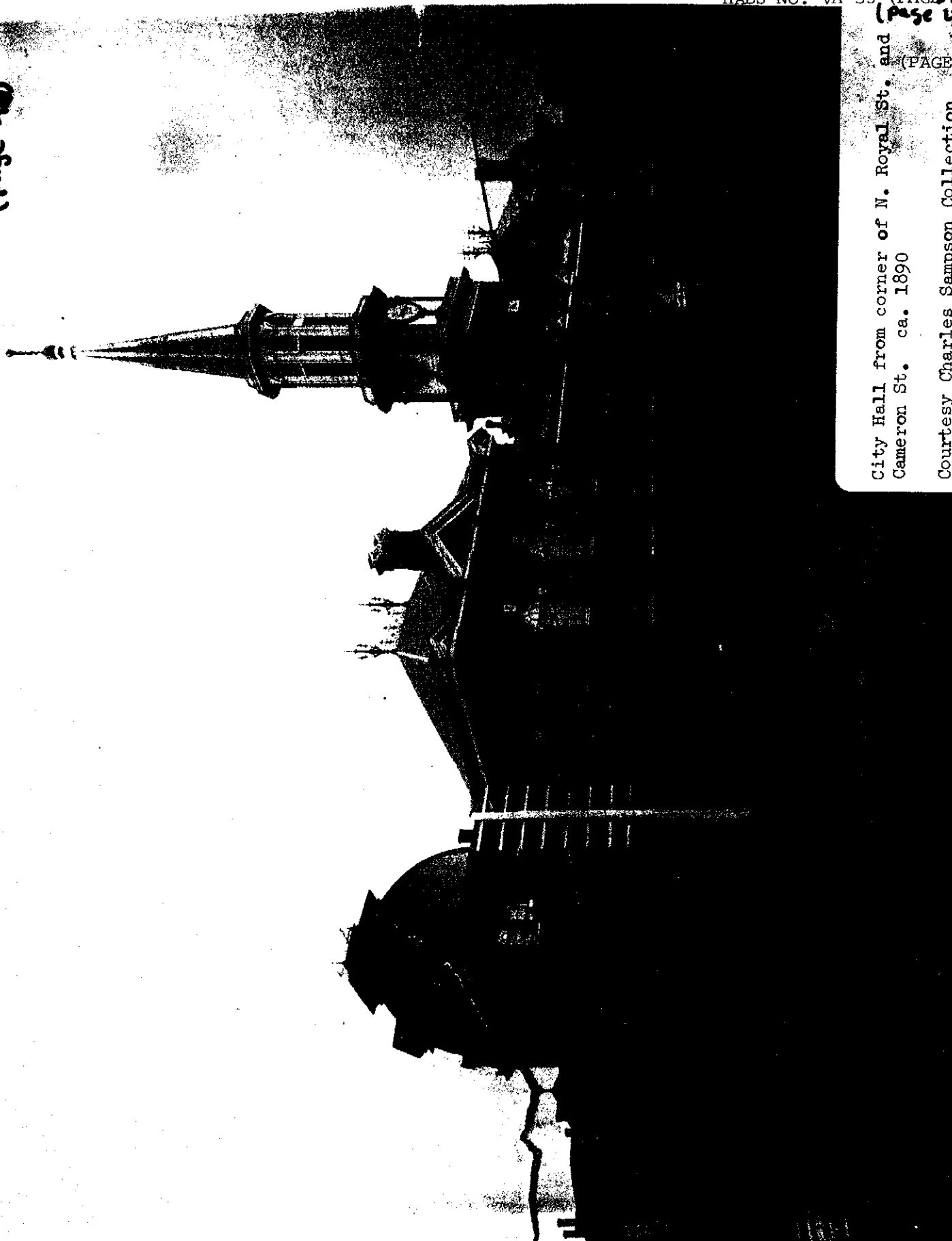


City Hall. Cameron St. front from corner
of N. Royal St., ca. 1890

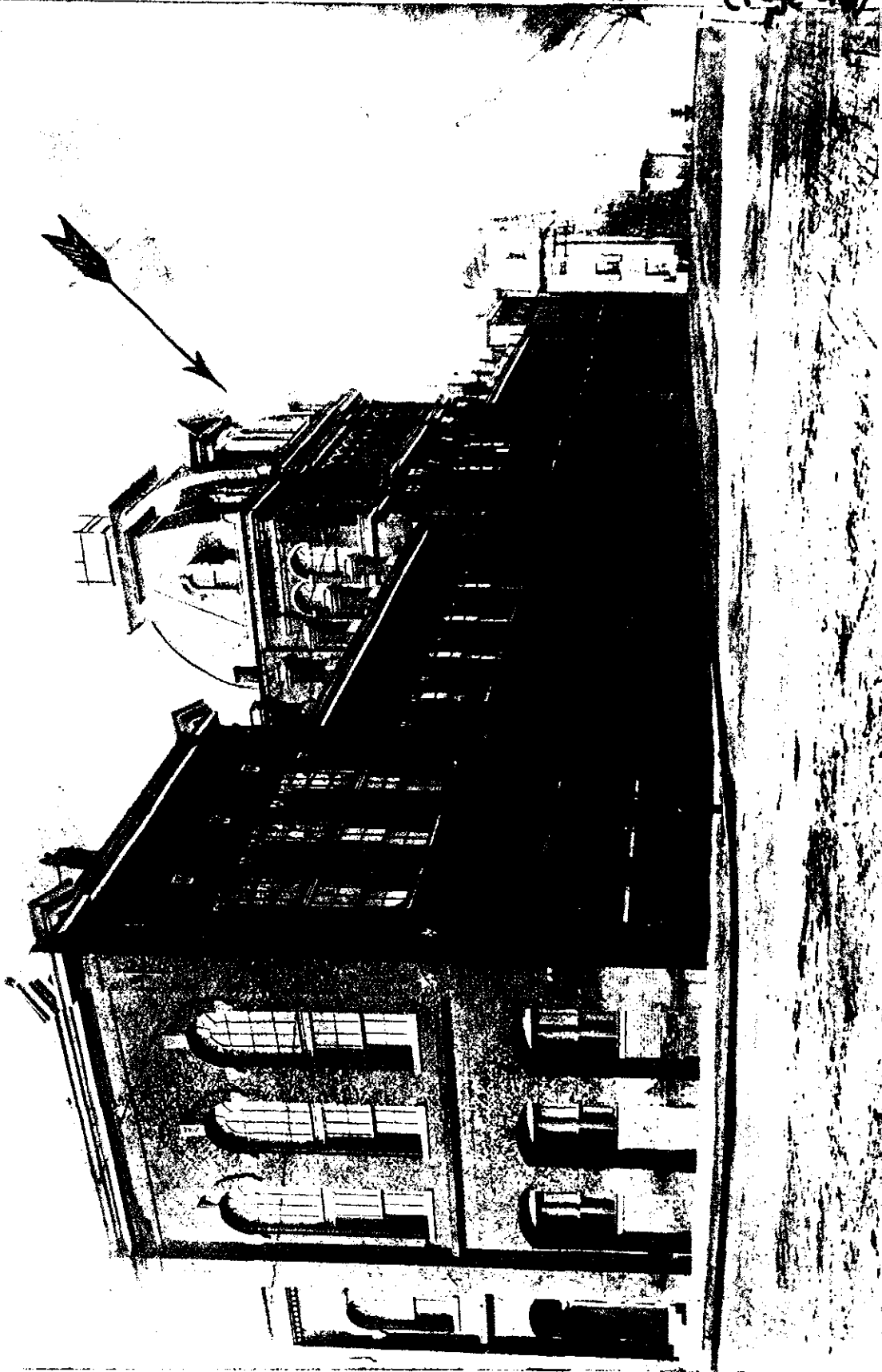
courtesy F. Wm Smith Collection, Alexandria,
VA.

City Hall from corner of N. Royal St. and
Cameron St. ca. 1890

Courtesy Charles Sampson Collection,
Alexandria, VA



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(page 40)

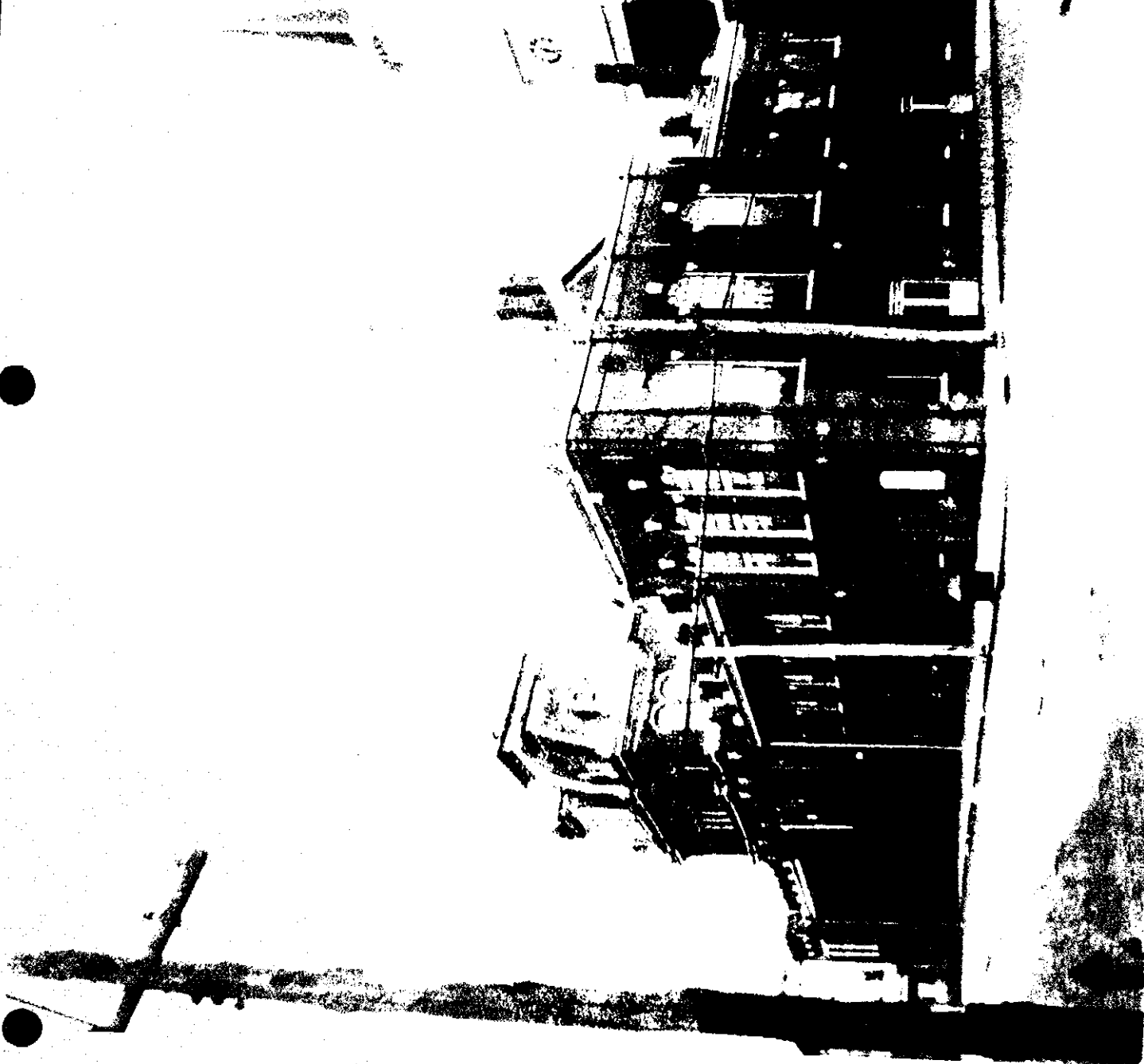


City Hall from corner of Cameron & N.
Fairfax with Mason's tower.
From Callahan's book. courtesy Alexandria-
Washington Masonic Lodge #22 archives

HABS No. VA-33
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HABS No. VA-33 (PAGE 47)
(page 48)

Cameron & N. Royal Sts.
fronts, ca. 1910-1923?
Courtesy Alexandria Photo
Collection, Lloyd House
Library



Masonic Lodge, chapter room, published in
Washington: The Man & the Mason by Charles
H. Callahan (1913); chandelier before
electrification? courtesy Alexandria-Washington
Masonic Lodge

#22 archives

Masonic Lodge, Interior, Chapter Room, ca. 1916.
Alexandria Photograph Collection, Lloyd
House Library, Alexandria, VA





© M. LOEB

Masonic Lodge, interior, chapter room c.1916
Photograph by M. Loeb, Alexandria Photograph
Collection, Lloyd House Library, Alexandria



City Hall and Market House from
corner of Market and Sharpshin Alleys.
Copied from Dolly Shepardson's
collection. Courtesy F. WM. Smith Coll.

Elevation of Market House and City Hall
by Adolph Cluss, architect, 1871 from
archives of the Alexandria-Washington
Lodge No. 22, George Washington Masonic
Memorial Association

